# CHAPTER V—FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES.

## (i) Food Production

**727.** The undermentioned schemes were in operation during the year :—

1. *Multiplication and Distribution of Improved Varieties of Seeds—Setting up of Seed Farms.*—During the year, 28 seed farms were set up for increasing the crop yields thus making up a total of 48 farms started in the Second Plan Period. During the year, crops were raised on 36 farms and the remaining were under reclamation being Government waste lands. The total quantity of seeds produced on seed farms was 6,755 mds. The quantities of improved seeds produced on seed farms were supplied to the Registered Seed Growers for further multiplication and distribution to cultivators.

The State Budget provision for this scheme for 1958-59 was Rs. 11,59,500 and the Central assistance was —as loan Rs. 85,085, and as grant Rs. 2,04,148.

2. *Distribution of Fertilisers.*—During the year, the work of propaganda for proper application of chemical manures in adequate doses and in time, as well as to popularise increased use of Superphosphate and Urea and new fertilisers like Ammonium Sulphate/Nitrate, was continued. The progress during the year was :—

Total quantity of fertilisers distributed ... 42,021 tons.
Acreage benefited ... ... 4,20,210 acres.
Estimated additional gross production of foodgrains ... ... 1,59,833 tons.

The State Budget provision for this scheme for the year 1958-59 was Rs. 2,26,530 and the Central assistance in the form of grant was Rs. 9,754.

3. *Preparation and Distribution of Urban Compost.*—Under this scheme, it is envisaged to utilise the town sweepings, sewage, etc., in preparing compost manure.

To accelarate the compost work in rural parts, a scheme known as 'Scheme for Development of Local Manurial Resources' has been launched on an all-India basis. Under this Scheme, village leaders one from each

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village, in the N.E.S. and C.D. Blocks will be given training in the improved methods of conservation of cattle and human wastes for preparing compost.

The progress under compost preparation by several Municipalities in the State during the year was 2,17,000 tons, benefiting 13,400 acres of land, thus giving an estimated additional food production of 10,850 tons (gross).

The State Budget provision for this scheme for the year 1958-59 was Rs. 1,73,330 and the Central assistance in form of grant was Rs. 29,657.

4. *Procurement and Distribution of Green Manure Seeds.*—Under this scheme, 238 tons of sunnhemp and other green manure seeds as well as 14 lakhs of glyricidia seedlings and cuttings were distributed during the year. Nearly an extent of 62,500 acres will be benefited with an estimated additional gross production of 6,250 tons of food-grains.

5. *Supply of Electrical and Diesel Engine Pumpsets, Persian Wheels and Tractors on Hire Purchase System.*—In order to help such farmers who have irrigation wells and resources of fixing pumpsets, it is envisaged to supply machinery only on loan basis to the agriculturists to help them have irrigation facilities. During the year, 250 electrical motor driven pumpsets were supplied. Fifteen diesel oil engine driven pumpsets and one persian wheel costing Rs. 38,283 were also supplied. In addition to this, 27 new tractors with implements costing Rs. 4,35,769 were supplied to the agriculturists to help machanise their agricultural operations. The additional food production estimated to be derived under this scheme was 250 tons (gross).

The State Budget provision for this scheme in form of loan for the year 1958-59 was Rs. 3,37,000 and loan from the Centre was Rs. 3,33,136.

6. *Plant Protection Scheme.*—During the year, 1,22,269 acres of food crops, which were affected by pests and diseases, were treated and the adverse effect which would otherwise be resulting was minimised. The estimated additional gross food production as a result of the above preventive work was 10,000 tons. The total

expenditure on the special staff and the cost of chemicals and equipment purchased for distribution to farmers at subsidised rates in the year was Rs. 95,288 and Rs. 56,539 respectively.

The State Budget provision for this scheme for the year 1958-59 was Rs. 2,09,620 and grant from the Centre was Rs. 14,135.

7. *Japanese Method of Paddy Cultivation.*—During the year, an extent of 4,31,932 acres was covered by this method and an estimated additional gross production of 85,000 tons of foodgrains was secured.

The Budget allotment for this scheme for the year 1958-59 was Rs. 59,800 and grant from the Centre was Rs. 14,518.

8. *Development of local manurial resources and better utilisation of local resources for production of manure in villages.*—Enormous quantities of cattle manure, night soil and other locally available organic wastes in the rural areas are now wasted unprofitably. With a view to utilise these under an improved process for conversion into beneficial manure this scheme was intended to cover all N.E.S. and C. D. Blocks in the State. Further, it was also proposed to prepare compost in selected village panchayats by providing them sufficient financial assistance. The work was started in 27 blocks during the year. A quantity of 6,35,200 tons of rural compost was prepared.

9. *Construction of Irrigation Wells.*—This scheme provides financial assistance to the agriculturists by way of subsidy towards the cost of constructing irrigation wells in their lands. The amount of subsidy payable was Rs. 250 per well. The expenditure thus incurred as subsidy would be shared by the Government of India as well as by the State Government equally. In case the farmer needs further assistance, loans not more than Rs. 750 per well repayable in easy annual instalments are given, the total amount so given being not more than half the cost incurred by the applicant. The progress made under this scheme during the year was :—

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| No. of wells completed | ... | 1,020 |
| Acreage benefited | ... | 2,040 |
| Additional food production estimated. | | 1,000 tons (gross). |

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The Budget allotment for this scheme for the year 1958-59 in form of loan was Rs. 12,70,200, and in form of assistance was Rs. 5,47,800 and the Central assistance in form of loan was Rs. 11,22,024, and in form of grant was Rs. 2,42,361.

10. Minor Irrigation works costing more than Rs. 50,000, and Minor Irrigation works costing below Rs. 50,000 were under operation during the year.

For these two schemes the Budget allotment for the year in form of loan was Rs. 56,64,000 and loan from the Centre was Rs. 21,70,125.

11. *Special Minor Irrigation Works*:—Minor irrigation works under which anicuts, tanks, feeder and pickup channels requiring improvements to secure economical utilisation of water for irrigation and costing below Rs. 50,000 were also brought under this scheme.

The Budget allotment for the year in form of loan was Rs. 1,23,73,000 and Central assistance in form of loan was Rs. 29,65,667 and in form of grant was Rs. 14,82,834.

12. *Restoration of Minor Tanks*.— The Budget allotment for this scheme for the year in form of loan was Rs. 20,45,000 and loan from the Centre was Rs. 5,57,264.

13. *Extension of power lines to irrigation pumpsets*.— The number of irrigation pumpsets energised with power was 1,654, helping to irrigate, 8,270 acres and resulting in an estimated additional production of 4,135 tons of foodgrains in the year.

The Budget allotment for this scheme for the year in form of loan was Rs. 42,00,000 and the Central assistance in form of loan was Rs. 39,19,014 and in form of grant was Rs. 7,83,806.

14. *Land Reclamation by Manual Labour*.—Land reclamation is one of the major beneficial works contributing to a long lasting or permanent benefit towards improvement of the concerned lands resulting in the assured increase of annual yield of the crops therefrom. During the year, an extent of 624 acres of land was reclaimed by manual labour, which resulted in an estimated additional gross production of 1,500 tons of foodgrains.

15. *Distribution of Iron and Steel for Agricultural purposes*—The Department continued to procure and arrange for distribution of iron and steel for agricultural purposes in the current year also. The distribution work was entrusted mainly to the co-operative societies and a few private registered stockists during the year. A quantity of 8,790 tons of iron and steel comprising of M.S. Flats for cart tyres and plough points, M.S. Squares for axles, B.P. and G.I. sheets and G.I. wires was allotted by Government of India.

16. *Tractor and Bulldozer Services.*—The Department continued the tractor and bulldozer service organisation to assist the cultivators to bring virgin lands under cultivation and to deep plough the lands already under cultivation to improve the outturn and secure increased food production.

During the year, 45 tractors and 32 bulldozers were engaged in the work in various parts of the State. The extent of land ploughed by tractors was 7,723 acres and the extent of land reclaimed by bulldozers was 1,135 acres. The estimated additional production derived from the above scheme was 1,500 tons of foodgrains (gross).

**728.** The work of the Department continued to be satisfactory and the targets set up for the period were attained.

## (ii) Food Supplies.

**729.** The following figures show the acreage and production of cereals in the State for the year 1958-59 :— Acreage, Production and Requirements of Cereals in the State.

| | Acreage | | Production (in tons) | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1958–59 | 1957–58 | 1958–59 | 1957–58 |
| Rice ... | 22,67,603 | 22,02,137 | 11,02,163 | 10,91,307 |
| Ragi ... | 21,60,153 | 20,16,400 | 6,06,460 | 5,97,448 |
| Jola ... | 61,41,794 | 63,44,348 | 12,37,713 | 10,28,924 |

**730.** The estimated adult population of the State for the year 1958-59 was 168·6 lakhs and the State's total requirement of foodgrains for the year (calculated at one pound of foodgrains per adult per day) was about 27·47

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lakhs of tons. The estimated average annual production of foodgrains in the State was 25·69 lakhs of tons and on this basis, the deficit in foodgrains for the year was estimated to be about 1·78 lakhs of tons.

Price Stabilisation Scheme

**731.** With a view to arrest the spiralling up of prices of foodgrains in general and of rice in particular in the latter part of the year, arrangements were made to get the second variety paddy under the Voluntary Procurement scheme hulled and to issue the resultant rice through Fair Price Shops in the State to bona fide consumers at two seers (Mysore Measure) per rupee or 4·8 lbs. per rupee with effect from 15th August 1958.

**732.** With a view to have a central agency for distribution of rice throughout the State, a contract was entered into with the Mysore State Co-operative Marketing Society Ltd., Bangalore, for lifting of rice stocks after crediting the cost in advance from the several rice mills of Shimoga, Coorg, Dharwar and Belgaum Districts and delivery to the several retailers recognised by the Department in the State. Under the above contract, the State Marketing Co-operative Society lifted 52,473 pallas of rice from the several rice mills during the year and delivered the same to the nominees of the Deputy Commissioners of Districts and the Assistant Director of Food Supplies (Depots), Bangalore.

**733.** At the end of the year, there were 407 Fair Price Shops functioning in the State.

Mysore Rice Procurement (Levy) Order 1959

**734.** With a view to build up stocks of rice for release through Fair Price Depots during the lean months of the year, the Government decided to procure paddy/rice during the current harvest of 1959 and promulgated the Rice Procurement Levy Order, 1959, on 13th January 1959. The order extended to the whole of the State.

**735.** A target of about 10,00,000 pallas of paddy was fixed in the first instance for procurement during the current harvest. The following quantities of paddy and rice were procured till the end of March 1959.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Paddy | ... | 3,36,300 pallas. |
| Rice | ... | 24,763 pallas. |

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**736.** The Rice (Southern Zone) Movement Control Order, 1957, promulgated by the Government of India during 1957-58 with amendments made during the year was in force during the year.

The Rice (Southern Zone) Movement Control Order, 1957.

**737.** The restriction on the export of rice products like paffed or parched or beaten rice outside the Southern Zone imposed by the Rice (Southern Zone) Movement Control Order, 1957, continued to be in force in the State during the year.

**738.** The Mysore Foodgrains Licensing and Storage (Regulation) Order, 1957, which was in force till the end of 31st December 1958, was repealed and a new Order called "The Mysore Foodgrains Dealers and Millers Licensing Order, 1958," was issued and this Order continued to be in force during the remaining part of the year. The main provision of the new Order was that no Dealer or Miller shall at any time hold or transport business in foodgrains in a quantity of 50 mds. or more except under and in accordance with the terms and conditions of a licence granted by the licensing authority of the District in which the business takes place.

The Mysore Foodgrains Licensing and Storage (Regulation) Order, 1957.

**739.** The maximum prices at which the several varieties of paddy and rice might be sold in the State were fixed by the Mysore Rice and Paddy (Mysore) Price Control Order, 1959, issued by the Government of India during the year and was extended to the whole of the State.

The Rice and Paddy (Mysore) Price Control Order, 1958.

**740.** Wheat supplied by the Government of India at Rs. 14 per maund in the Central Storage Depots for issue to the bona fide consumers by the Co-operative Societies and fair price shops continued during the year as in the previous year.

Distribution of Wheat and Wheat Products.

**741.** Control Orders relating to wheat and wheat products continued to be in force during the year.

**742.** The price of sugar ranged from Rs. 1-28 nP to Rs. 1-62 nP. per viss of 3-1/8 lbs. (in retail) and Rs. 92 to Rs. 106 per bag of 2 cwt. (in wholesale) during the year. Even though the supply position of sugar was satisfactory there was an upward trend in the price of sugar at the close of the year.

Sugar and Jaggery

**743.** There was no control over jaggery during the year.

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Skimmed Milk Powder.

**744.** The State Trading Corporation of India (Private) Ltd., New Delhi, allotted to the State 2,20,000 lbs. or about 98 tons of milk powder. The Government entrusted the work of obtaining and distributing the stocks (wholesale) to the Mysore State Co-operative Marketing Society Ltd., Bangalore.

**745.** The release of milk powder under this arrangement had the immediate effect of checking the open market price of this commodity. The prices, which ranged from Rs. 1-75 nP. to Rs. 2 per lb. prior to the release of the above stocks, came down to Rs. 1-25 nP. per lb.

Conclusion.

**746.** The salient features of the Food Policy of Government during the year was one of assumption of slightly larger functions in regard to both procurement and distribution of foodgrains, mainly rice. The implementation of the Mysore Rice Procurement (Levy) Order, 1959, the provisions of which were not as rigorous as those of the monopoly procurement scheme of the period of full-fledged control nor as liberal as those of the scheme of Voluntary Procurement introduced during the preceding year, presented various complicated problems which had to be resolved with great tact frequently by skilful negotiation and persuasion rather than by enforcement, so as to achieve the objective of Government in making rice available to bonafide consumers at a reasonable price without at the same time causing harassment to the growers or undue interference with the normal trade channels.

## (iii) Civil Supplies.

Textiles

**747.** The following control orders relating to Textiles were under the administration of this Department during the year :

(*a*) The Cotton Textiles Control Order, 1948.

(*b*) The Cotton Textiles Control of Movement Order, 1948.

(*c*) The Textile (Production by Powerloom) Control Order, 1956.

**748.** There were more than 7,000 powerlooms in the State engaged in the manufacture of art silk fabrics. Detailed investigations in individual cases were being

conducted and suitable recommendations made to the Textile Commissioner, Bombay, for the issue of necessary Registration Certificates wherever the powerlooms were found to be in existence and working on art silk prior to 19th December 1956, *i.e.*, the date of promulgation of the Textiles (Production by Powerloom) Control Order, 1956. The work relating to the regularisation of cotton powerlooms under the Government of India Cotton Textiles (Control) Order, 1948, was also one of the important items of work of the Department during the year.

**749.** The Mysore Cement Rationing and Licensing Order, 1957, continued to be in force during the year. As against the allotment of 1,83,180 tons for 1957-58, the Government of India enhanced the allotment to 2,20,500 tons. The Government Departments including Local Bodies, important institutions and major industries requiring large quantities of cement continued to get their supplies direct from the Cement Factories as before. Cement

**750.** The permit system for distribution of cement to the public was completely removed on account of the easy supply position of cement in the State.

**751.** The State Trading Corporation of India Ltd., which came into existence during June 1956, continued to look after the work of the cement distribution up to stockists level during the year also. There were 433 Cement stockists in the State at the close of the year.

**752.** The Cotton Control Order, 1955, continued to be in force during the year. The Controller of Civil Supplies was the licensing authority for Mysore State in respect of 'B' and 'C' class licenses. Cotton

**753.** As per an amendment issued by the Government of India, the fee for the issue of new 'B' Class licence was enhanced by Rs. 5, thus the fee payable becoming Rs. 30 per licence. The number of 'B' Class licenses that remained during 1958-59 and which are due to be renewed for 1959-60 was 1,017. The renewal fee for each licence for 1959-60 is Rs. 25.

**754.** During the year, the supply position of Kerosene oil became rather scarce. Kerosene Oil

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Inspection of stocks of Iron and Steel and Scrap held by quota holders and stockists.

**755.** The Iron and Steel Controller, Bhadravati, authorised the Controller of Civil Supplies to inspect stocks of iron and steel or scrap held by any person (including quota holders of small scale and cottage industries). This has become a permanent feature of the activities of the Department.

Receipts and Expenditure

**756.** The total receipts of the Department by way of cotton and cement dealers licence fees were about Rs. 43,000. Against this, there was an expenditure of Rs. 56,695 under all heads during the year.

**757.** The work of the Department continued to be satisfactory during the year.